

REMARKS

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action dated March 30, 2004 that was issued in connection with the above-identified patent application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the instant application in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein.

Claims 1-4 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended herein. Support for these amendments may be found, for example, in Korean Patent Application No. 1999-0050110, to which the instant application claims priority. Accordingly, these amendments do not include new matter. Upon entry of the instant amendment, claims 1-4 will be pending.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants thank the Examiner for graciously withdrawing earlier rejections. Applicants also thank the Examiner for acknowledging and accepting Applicant's priority claim based on Korean patent Application No. 1999-0050110 filed on November 12, 1999 (hereinafter "the '50110 application").

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as allegedly indefinite. The Examiner has alleged that the phrase "water soluble ethylene-acryl resin containing 50-80% of ethylene and 50-20% of acryl resin and having a molecular weight of 20,000 to 50,000" recited by claims 1 and 2 is unclear with respect to the nature of the percentages and the molecular weight.

Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully assert that the claims, as amended herein, are clear. Applicants have amended claims 1-2 to recite "50-80 wt% of ethylene and 50-20 wt% of acryl resin." Support for this amendment may be found in the '50110 application. See the '50110 application (English translation), p.4, lines 7-9. Applicants have also

amended claims 1-2 to recite "a number average molecular weight of 20,000 to 50,000." General support for this amendment may be found in the application as filed in its references to phenoxy resin molecular weights in terms of "number average" molecular weights, for example, at page 6, lines 10-15. Applicants assert that one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the conditions of copolymerization of ethylene and acryl resin may be regulated to adjust the relative amounts of ethylene and acryl resin that are incorporated into the copolymer. Likewise, copolymerization conditions may be regulated to achieve a desired molecular weight. Thus, the figures recited by claims 1-2 refer to the composition and number average molecular weight of the copolymer. Applicants, therefore, believe that claims 1-4, as amended herein, are clear and definite and respectfully request withdrawal of the instant rejection.

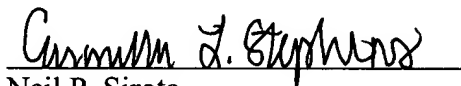
Therefore, Applicants believe that the instant application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request prompt, favorable action.

While Applicants do not believe any fee is due with this submission, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any fees required with this submission not otherwise enclosed herewith from Deposit Account No. 02-4377. Two copies of this paper are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS, L.L.P.

August 23, 2004



Neil P. Sirota
PTO Reg. No. 38,306

Carmella L. Stephens
PTO Reg. No. 41,328
Attorneys for Applicants

Guy F. Birkenmeier
PTO Reg. No. 52,622
Agent for Applicants

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10112
(212) 408-2500